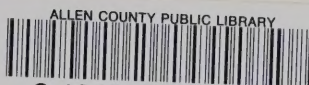


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Gc 978.402 T37s
Souvenir of the golden
jubilee of St. Jude's
Church, Thompson, N.D.

A History

of

St. Jude's Church

Thompson, N. D.



1895 - 1945

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Souvenir

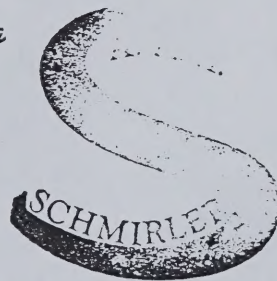
of the

Golden Jubilee

of

St. Jude's Church

Thompson, North Dakota



Rev. Paul L. Koehler



HIS HOLINESS POPE PIUS XII

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Golden Jubilee Program

SUNDAY, JUNE 17th

9:00 A. M.—First Solemn Communion of Golden Jubilee Class—

Members: John Fritz, Dennis Gregoire, James Majkrzak,
Beverly Gregoire, Yvonne Gregoire, Rita Huard and Darlyne
Ray.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20th

8:00 A. M.—Requiem High Mass for Deceased Priests and People of the
Parish.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21st

10:00 A. M.—Solemn High Mass in presence of

The Most Rev. Aloisius J. Muench, D.D.

Chaplains to the Bishop: Very Rev. William McNamee

Rev. Thomas Ryan

Rev. Paul L. Koehler - - - - - *Celebrant*

Rev. George Mehok - - - - - *Deacon*

Rev. Joseph Hylden - - - - - *Subdeacon*

Rev. David J. Boyle - - - - - *Master of Ceremonies*

12:15 P. M.—Dinner in Thompson Community Hall.

3:00 P. M.—Conferring of Sacrament of Confirmation to the following
members of the Golden Jubilee Class:

Raymond Bohlman, Thomas Breton, Dale Fortin, Jerome
Fortin, Lawrence Fritz, Keith Gregoire, Lee Gregoire, Harry
Griggs, George Huard, John Maddock, William McMenamy,
Darrell Ray, Frank Simon, Robert Simon, Douglas Tweet,
Franklin Tweet, James Weber, Dale West, Elizabeth
Bohlman, Mary Charboneau, Margaret Cronin, Barbara
Fritz, Dorothy Lazure, Helen Lazure, Jeanne Maddock,
Elizabeth Majkrzak, Anna Opyt, and four adults, Mrs.
Hubert Charboneau, Mrs. Albert Fortin, Mrs. Clarence
Fontaine and Mrs. Virgil McCann.

Page Three

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Dedication

TO the great pioneers of Thompson and its surrounding territory who cherished and fashioned the Catholic faith under trying circumstances, and to those following after them who will continue their sacrifices to remain steadfast in the faith of their forefathers—we dedicate this booklet.



FATHER PAUL KOEHLER

Foreword

THE purpose of this booklet is to give a short history of St. Jude's Parish of Thompson, North Dakota. We have tried to relate the events of this parish as accurately as possible. It was not easy to obtain the data necessary for this work, but with what material we had, we attempted to chronicle the events of Catholic life in this community since its beginning.

It would be impossible, of course, to do justice to the work of the great pioneers who labored in the early days in this community. In some measure, however, we hope to have given a tribute to their noble work and faith which have borne fruit to the present day. Our work seems very small, indeed, when compared with their labors. It is for us to cherish and foster the foundations which they have laid that our children may receive their priceless heritage enriched by the devoted work of each generation.

We regret that some important events may have been omitted and that the references to certain priests are too brief. This has occurred because of a lack of necessary information.

Humbly, then, we give you this booklet, with the sincere hope that it will give you inspiration to carry on the work of your forefathers of whom you have every reason to be proud and whom you must continue to imitate in the love of your Faith.

FATHER PAUL L. KOEHLER, *Pastor.*

Page Five



HIS EXCELLENCY MOST REVEREND
ALOISIUS J. MUENCH, D. D.,
BISHOP OF FARGO

A Message From Our Bishop

CATHOLIC LIFE in a parish portrays in miniature the Catholic life of the Universal Church. Its worship, which centers primarily at the altar of Holy Sacrifice, is the same as that of Christ's Church. The truths preached in the parish church are identical with those preached in the entire Catholic world. The sacramental graces that are dispensed within the parish have the same life-giving force there as anywhere in the Catholic Church.

The parish may be compared to a living cell in the human body. It may be small, but it is vital to the life of the body. So, too, the Parish is a vital part of the Mystic Body of Christ, in which we are all members of one another. Size is not a matter of importance. What counts is that parish life be healthy.

For fifty years St. Jude's Parish at Thompson has contributed toward the upbuilding of the Mystical Body of Christ in the Diocese of Fargo. The present generation has reason to be proud as it looks back and views the achievements of the last half century. But it has reason to be grateful, too, to the pioneer priests and people who, through struggle and sacrifice, laid sound and solid beginnings for the development of parish life during the past five decades. We pay to these pioneers our warm tribute of gratitude for what they did for religion in the community of Thompson.

Their work, however, is not done. We are called by God to carry on their work, especially since deep religious life, healthy down to the last fiber of our being, will be needed for the solution of the grave problems that lie ahead in the postwar world.

Human culture has been shaken down to its foundations. A new barbarism has destroyed not only millions of lives but has wrecked cities, large and small, with their age-old monuments, in which were embodied the best thoughts and highest ideals of Christian civilization. All this must never happen again.

Beyond all question religion has the most important role to play in making a good, sound, permanent peace. For religion teaches men to reverence the Sovereignty of God, and to bow in obedience to His will as expressed in His law, dictated by conscience and focused in the Ten Commandments. Religion demands of men respect for human dignity, on which the rights and freedoms of true democracy are based.

Through their interest in and their support of religion in its varied works, under the leadership of their pastor, the faithful of St. Jude's Parish will contribute toward strengthening the resolve of our nation to make and keep a peace of enduring value. We are confident that they will measure up to the great tasks with which the future will confront them. By their good Catholic home life, by fidelity to their Catholic duties, and by their spirit of generosity and cooperation, they have shown that their Catholic faith is to them a most precious heritage.

On this occasion of the Golden Jubilee of their parish we tender to pastor and people our sincere and heartfelt felicitations, adding the prayer of St. Jude: "May mercy, and peace, and charity be given you in abundance."

† ALOISIUS J. MUENCH, D. D.
Bishop of Fargo.

June 21, 1945.

Page Seven



ST. JUDE'S CHURCH

History of the Parish

THE HISTORY of the Catholic faith in the vicinity of Thompson goes back much farther than 1895, but just when Mass was first offered in this community is not certain. Tradition states that the first Catholics to establish themselves in this community comprised the French settlement of Merrifield, four miles north of Thompson, and there, it is believed, Father Peter C. Hubert, the first resident priest of Grand Forks, said Mass sometime during the year of 1877. Michael Huard, one of the earliest pioneers in this section, is one of the noteworthy laymen who aided the first missionaries who came to this territory.

Available records give the years of 1878, 1879 and 1880 for the arrival of the first German Catholics families at Thompson, then known as Norton. Among the outstanding pioneers settling here during this period were Michael Donovan, James McMenemy, Jacob Lesman, Nick Simon and Peter and Fred Weber. Among the first missionary priests to administer to the needs of the Catholics of Reynolds and Thompson was Father Vincent Wehrle, O. S. B., who later became the first bishop of the Diocese of Bismarck, North Dakota. Names of other missionary priests who from time to time came to administer to the needs of the German Catholics include Father Lawrence Spitzenberg who journeyed from Moorhead, Minnesota, and Father Philip Albrecht who came from Wahpeton, North Dakota.

At this time the French community was being cared for by the priests from Grand Forks and even as late as 1925 many of the Catholics from the Merrifield community attended St. Michael's Church in Grand Forks. At this date, however, a definite line was drawn which determined to which parish the various families of this rural community belonged.

In 1887 Father Edward Connaty became pastor of St. Michael's Church at Grand Forks and was given jurisdiction over the territory of Thompson which, at this time, was considered not as a parish but rather as a station. Mass was not offered regularly in this community until Thompson became a Mission of Reynolds.

In 1891 the Catholics of Thompson built their first church just south of town near what is now known as the coulee. No one knows what it cost; it seems that some of the men just gathered together and built it. One of the pioneers who is still living and helped to build this church estimated the cost to be between five hundred and six hundred dollars, the price of the lumber. Father Connaty of Grand Forks still had jurisdiction over this region, and even to this day the good Catholics who were served by him speak highly of his piety and love of souls.

Thompson Becomes Mission to Reynolds

In 1895 Thompson became a mission to Reynolds when this church received its first resident pastor, Father B. Kauer. Hence, the history of St.



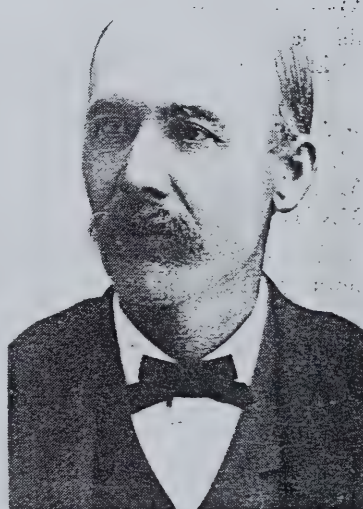
FATHER EDWARD CONNATY



JAMES McMENAMY



PETER WEBER



FRED WEBER



FATHER EDWARD GERAGHTY

Jude's Parish begins with this date since it became a mission parish with regular services. At this time, one record tells us, Thompson had between fifty and sixty souls. The oldest records in the parish books give regular payment of dues in 1896; it also records baptisms in that year.

Father Kauer, because of ill health, was forced to discontinue his Reynolds' pastorate in the fall of 1897. He was succeeded by Father B. Fressenberg who labored less than a year in the community. Father Edward Geraghty, now pastor of St. James' Church at Jamestown, came to Thompson in January of 1898 to fill the vacancy left by Father Fressenberg. But here let us hear Father Geraghty tell his own story.

Father Geraghty Relates His Experiences at Thompson

"I was appointed to Reynolds, Thompson and Hillsboro in January of 1898. I came to Reynolds about the tenth of January and said my first Mass at Thompson about the third Sunday of the month. The little church at Thompson had been built while Father Connaty had charge of the mission. It was a small building about twenty feet wide and about forty feet long. The furniture of the church was all made locally. It was strong but not very artistic. The little altar, very simple in design, was made by some local carpenter, but since it was my first visit to Thompson, the good women of the mission had spent a great deal of time and expense to make it as beautiful as possible.

"When I arrived by sleigh at the church, I was met by the whole congregation which consisted of about 60 or 70 people. I received a very warm reception. The first question I was asked was "Has the Church condemned the Woodmen?" I informed them that as far as I knew there was no condemnation and that my brother belonged to the Woodmen. This satisfied the questioner and the group for it seemed the men all belonged to the Woodmen. I remember telling them that they all looked healthy and rugged and that there was no danger of death among them, but that if any of them should die suddenly, I would surely bury him out on the prairie.

"I said the Mass and preached a little sermon, which as far as I can remember was an old Seminary production. It pleased them very much because they understood but very little of it. The congregation was composed principally of Germans, shamrocked by a few Irish. After Mass I was invited to the home of a parishioner who seemed to be one of the leaders of the congregation. He informed me that he didn't have much to set before me for breakfast nor would he vouch for the quality, but he said that since he had to live on it all the time, I should be able to live on it part of the time.

"I hadn't learned yet to talk about money. But my first announcement about a collection for the church was made there and the response was very generous. My altar boys, two grown men with long, sandy mustaches, had learned to serve Mass somewhere along the Rhine.

"As we gathered a few funds we painted the church and made improvements; the ladies in particular were very proud of a set of chandeliers we bought so that we could have services in the evening. Strange to say, there was no debt on the church. It served our purposes until 1902 when a cyclone came across the prairie and struck the little church, shattering it and leaving nothing but the foundation. The church carried no cyclonic insurance.

"Then I called a meeting of the parishioners to build a church and the result of the meeting was the present structure at Thompson. What was it going to cost? How will we raise the money? How big will it be? Principally, how will we raise the money? One little Irishman got up, looked at me and said, 'I heard someone say, "How are we going to raise the money?" There's only one way to raise the money—dig down into your pockets for the cost. I'll start it with a couple hundred dollars, and here's the money.' We selected trustees and I recall only the name of Fred Weber who remained treasurer from that night until I left Thompson.

"The next problem, the selection of a site, resulted in our choice of our present location and we raised enough money the first night to pay for the lot. Then all the farmers volunteered to haul the rock we needed for the basement.

"Besides subscriptions for money we held a fair that fall and served supper. A popularity contest was one of the features. Two young ladies of the parish were selected as the two most promising and prominent young women of the mission. It wasn't easy to keep peace. Luckily, both contestants were of German extraction. The prize was two watches, one to be a consolation

prize for the loser. Each lady, setting out to be prize winner, went among her friends as her own popularity agent. After supper began the contest voting for the more popular girl of the mission—at ten cents per vote. The Irish members of the congregation 'ganged up' in favor of one of the ladies and their contestant was the winner. The net result was seventeen hundred dollars. Peace was kept; the Irish and the Germans were friends before the contest, during the contest, after the contest, and are friends yet.

"Bishop Shanley blessed the church in May, 1904. The only comment he had to make was that there was very little debt when the church was finished. He told the people how well pleased he was at this. Privately, he said the sacristy was a little small, which was the truth. But I told him that in case some future pastor is elevated to the episcopacy, we would enlarge the sacristy.

"I bid them farewell with regret on Christmas morning of 1904."

Father Geraghty's Work Lives On

Father Geraghty's writing of his own story for this publication is a favor deeply appreciated by all the people of Thompson. During his six years of pastorate in Reynolds and Thompson Father Geraghty made many friends among both Catholics and non-Catholics.

We would like to add a few more remarks about the building of the new church by Father Geraghty. From other sources we learned that the cost totaled \$4,427.35 not including the labor done by the members of the congregation. The church has a seating capacity of approximately 200 persons. In a year book published by Father Geraghty in 1901-1902 we are told that Thompson at that time had 24 families.

The Certificate of Corporate Existence, making the parish of St. Jude a Corporation, bears the date of July 15, 1903, a truly important event in the history of every parish. It carries the names of Bishop John Shanley, Father Thomas Egan and Father Edward Geraghty.

A story is told about Father Geraghty that might be of interest to relate here. Father had a great love for horses and he prided himself on possessing the best and fastest team in the community. On one occasion, so we are told, Father was a little late for Mass at Thompson and some of the parishioners were standing outside of the church awaiting his arrival. Suddenly Father's team, followed by a cloud of dust, appeared in the distance; then, just south of town, he was racing over the little wooden bridge about two city blocks away from the church. And now the climax! Father Geraghty was coming so fast that when he stopped his team in front of the church the echo of the boards from the bridge could still be heard. Whether or not this story is stretched matters little; it tells us that Father had good horses and that the good people who were served by him have many fond memories of him.

Father Landolt and Father Koelman Serve Thompson

When Father Geraghty left Reynolds and Thompson at the close of the year of 1904, he was succeeded by Father Stephen Landolt of whom we know



FATHER J. V. KOELMAN



FATHER FRANK MEYER

very little. It was he, however, who began to keep separate baptismal records for Thompson. The first such record noted by Father Landolt is that of Cecilia Turcotte who was baptized on June 14, 1908. The first marriage record for Thompson is that of Leon Revoir and Margaret Mary Anglesburg, entered November 17, 1908, by Father J. V. Koelman who succeeded Father Landolt late in 1908.

In the baptismal files are also found the names of Father Alex Grozowsky and Father Joseph Beirne, who were assistants to Father Koelman and from time to time served the Thompson people.

Just prior to the coming of Father Frank Meyer in 1915, Father R. V. Long, now pastor at Edgeley, North Dakota, served Thompson for two months, at the same time acting as assistant to Father Geraghty at Jamestown. Father Long tells us that he was just "borrowed" for a time, but his name is found in the records of the church in August and September of 1915.

Thompson Becomes An Independent Parish

Father Meyer came to Reynolds and Thompson in the fall of 1915. Several assistants served under him and took care of Thompson during his pastorate. The names of Father D. J. Falvey, Father A. L. Desauhiers, Father C. L. Massonat, Father John Mulvaney and Father J. J. Harrington are found in the record books of this parish. May, 1920, marks the date when Thompson received its first resident pastor in the person of Father Harrington. The present rectory was purchased at this time and remodeled. Father Meyer is now pastor of St. John's Church at Wahpeton, North Dakota.



FATHER PATRICK V. REDDIN



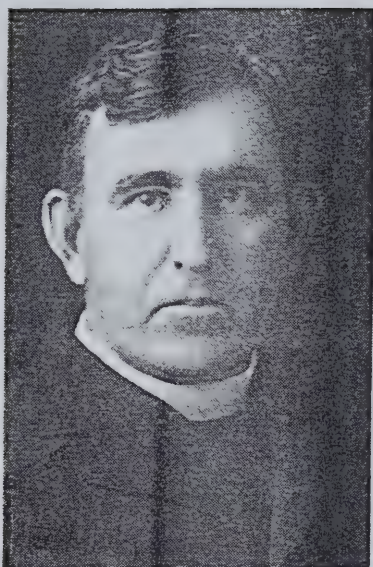
FATHER J. J. HARRINGTON

Thompson Has Many Pastors in Twenty-five Years

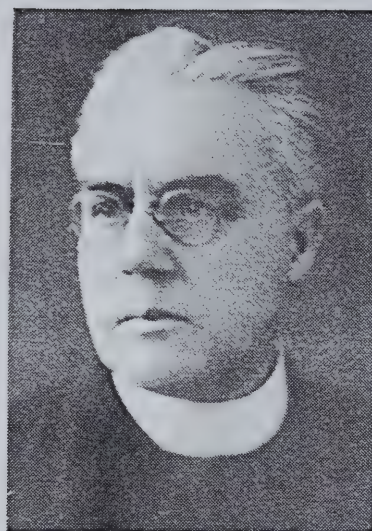
Father Harrington remained as pastor of Thompson for only two years and was succeeded by Father M. J. Hart in June, 1922. Father Hart remained as pastor of St. Jude's for a period of six months and was followed by Father Patrick V. Reddin in October of the same year. During Father Reddin's pastorate many improvements were made on the parish properties. Father Reddin's stay at Thompson was marked by several parish picnics and bowery dances that will long be remembered by the people of Thompson. When Father Reddin left Thompson in March, 1926, he left behind many friends in Thompson, both Catholics and non-Catholics, who were deeply grieved to hear of his death at Oakes, North Dakota on June 18, 1944, where he was pastor at the time.

Father A. P. Lamy came to take Father Reddin's place in the spring of 1926, but since his stay was very brief we have no data concerning his administration.

Father Victor Wasko came to Thompson in November, 1926 to take the place of Father Lamy. Father Wasko was the only Polish priest to have charge of the Thompson parish, but he was loved not only by the Polish people, but by all his parishioners, and when he left in April, 1928, to take charge of the parish at Drayton, North Dakota, there were many sad hearts in Thompson. Father Wasko was later killed in an automobile accident at Tappen, North Dakota, where he was pastor at the time.



FATHER EDWARD McARDLE



FATHER J. E. OUELLET

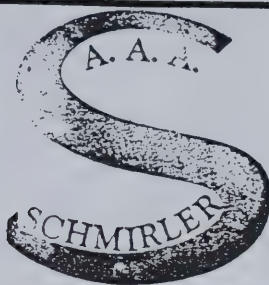
Father Wasko was followed by Father Edward McArdle as pastor of St. Jude's. Father McArdle, now retired, remained at Thompson until July, 1932, and was succeeded that same month by Father John Cullen, who labored in St. Jude's parish for a little over a year. Following Father Cullen, who left Thompson in the fall of 1933 were Father M. M. Cory and Father Philip P. McGee who served the parish for short periods of time.

Early in 1934 Father J. E. Ouellet received his appointment as pastor of Thompson. He was known for his great love of music, and the church choir was greatly improved under his administration. Father Ouellet was transferred to Cavalier in January, 1936, and later to St. John's, North Dakota, where he died January 28, 1943.

Father Lawrence R. Hebert came to Thompson in January of 1936 to fill the vacancy left by Father Ouellet. During Father Hebert's pastorate the entire church debt was liquidated and a new furnace was installed in the church. The Sodality of the Blessed Virgin was reorganized May 15, 1938 under his supervision. Father Hebert left Thompson in August of 1940 to become pastor of the Catholic churches at Verona and LaMoure.

Father Lawrence Ryan and His Fourth of July Picnic

Father Lawrence Ryan, Father Hebert's successor, arrived in the fall of 1940 and remained for just a little more than a year, but during that time his warm smile won many friends. Perhaps the biggest social event that was ever undertaken either in St. Jude's parish or in Thompson was the big



FATHER LAWRENCE RYAN

Fourth of July picnic, planned and executed by Father Ryan. Let us allow one of the parishioners to describe this memorable event:

"In the early part of May, 1941, ten men of St. Jude's parish met at the rectory with Father Lawrence Ryan. Their object was to lay the foundation of what was to be one of the major undertakings of the parish. Under the able direction of Father Ryan, plans were formulated; meetings were held every week, and various committees were appointed to carry out the numerous details incident to such an undertaking.

"The two days prior to the celebration were spent making our village ready for the scene to be enacted. Booths were constructed and decorated in suitable colors; the main street was roped off, and an amplifying system was procured. In these phases of the work and in many others too numerous to mention, fine full cooperation was received from all the business men as well as from the parish members.

"The morning of the Fourth dawned clear and beautiful. Everyone was at his post bright and early. The many attractions of the day began at 10 A.M. with the parade. Leading it was one of the parish boys dressed as Uncle Sam. The Holmes Community band in white uniforms followed. A series of floats contrasted former methods of transportation with our modern methods. A second group of displays was furnished by the business men of Thompson. Others who participated were the American Legion, the Boy Scouts, the Kitchen Band and the Thompson Primary Rhythm Band. A float bearing the Statue of Liberty depicted by a parish girl concluded the procession.

"Immediately following the parade all concessions were opened to the public. Throughout the afternoon and evening the ladies of the parish served

lunch. Frank J. Webb of Grand Forks was the guest speaker of the afternoon. Other afternoon attractions were a band concert, various races and a wrestling match.

"A beautiful display of fireworks, donated by Thompson business men, initiated the evening's entertainment. Many enjoyed a dance held at the Community Hall. The awarding of \$25.00 closed the day's activities.

"The result of the people's efforts in the many weeks of preparation and the day's work itself was beyond expectation. The total receipts reached almost \$2000. The people of Thompson learned that with the full cooperation of all untold achievements may be attained."

This story is a record not only of that memorable July 4, 1941, in Thompson; it is also an example of the quality of the harmony and cooperation flourishing in this parish. When Father Ryan left Thompson in December that same year to take over his new post at Michigan, North Dakota, where he is now stationed, he left for his successor a people willing and eager to advance.

Pearl Harbor Marks Coming of Present Pastor

The present pastor, Father Paul Koehler, received his appointment to Thompson just one week before that memorable date when our country was attacked at Pearl Harbor, and he arrived at his post in December 11, 1941. These, indeed, were dark days for our people; our boys were leaving home to enter the service; our Army and Navy were taking many losses. The people of Thompson speedily backed our nation by buying War Bonds, aiding the Red Cross and helping the war effort in every way possible.

As a result of the war, times improved financially. The work of the Church must go on, and so the members of St. Jude's parish took this opportunity to advance. For years the need of a new rectory had been felt, but lack of funds had continually postponed the project. Then in the spring of 1942 the farmers promised to give for this project as God would give to them under the "God's Acre" plan. Each farmer who owned a quarter of land promised to give an acre of wheat, or whatever he wished to the church. Those not on farms also made their contributions in a very generous manner. The result was beyond expectations; again it was an evidence of what cooperation can attain. At the end of 1942, the parish had a building fund of \$3,500.

In 1943 over \$2000 was spent improving the church. Exterior repairs included a new roof on the east side of the church. Within the structure, the entire ceiling and walls were covered with insulite; new linoleum was laid in the aisles and sanctuary; finally new lighting fixtures and Stations of the Cross, and the painting of the altars and woodwork made St. Jude's Church a beautiful edifice of which the members have reason to be proud. Marking the completion of this work was a three-day celebration climaxed by a visit of the Most Reverend Aloisius J. Muench, Bishop of Fargo, on Thursday, October 29, the patronal feast day of the parish. Father Frank Meyer who had been pastor of St. Jude's when it was made an independent parish in 1920 was celebrant of the Mass on that day and Bishop Muench preached the sermon.



PRESENT INTERIOR OF ST. JUDES CHURCH

In 1944 the members of the parish felt that the project of the new rectory must again be considered. The methods used in 1942 were again employed, and once more the people responded. The result at the present time shows a balance of over \$7,000 put aside in a building fund for a new rectory with more funds promised; many of these funds have been invested in War Bonds in order to help our war effort at the same time. Indeed, the members of St. Jude's can be praised for their faithful work.

As we come to the year 1945, we near the conclusion of our brief parochial history. We regret that some years of this history had to be passed over so quickly, but lack of data permitted no other course. The good priests who served St. Jude's Parish during the past fifty years labored zealously; they worked under hazardous conditions; they traveled by team and sometimes they walked many miles to care for the sick and the dying. Many of these priests have gone to their reward; the least we can do during this Jubilee year of our parish is to remember them in our prayers.

We note that 1945 marks two jubilees for St. Jude's Parish: the first is the Golden Jubilee since Thompson became a mission parish with Reynolds in 1895; the other is the Silver Jubilee of Thompson's becoming a parish in 1920. As we mark these dates, let us bow our heads in prayers of thanksgiving for the many graces God has showered upon our forefathers and upon us these past fifty years; let us be mindful that, though at times we had reason to be discouraged when all the world around us seemed the darkest, Almighty God took care of us in His own way. He provided for us even as He provided for the birds of the air. Let us on this occasion give thanks especially for the faith that He has given us. Let us pray daily that no matter what the circumstances, we may never be shaken from that faith, but that as years roll on, we may grow stronger and stronger in the heritage our forefathers have bequeathed to us and which we have preserved until this time. As we celebrate this Golden Jubilee in 1945, may we renew our love for God and fortify our strong and unshaken faith in Him.



BROTHER LIBERIAN JOSEPH



SISTERS VIRGINIA MARIE and
PAULINE MARIE



SISTER MARY PAULA

Religious Vocations in the Parish

Brother Liberian Joseph, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Breton of Thompson was born near Merrifield, North Dakota on March 2, 1916. He received his elementary education in the Thompson public schools and entered the Society of Christian Brothers at LaSalle Institute, Glencoe, Missouri, in May, 1938. He received the religious habit of that order on August 30, 1938 and was professed for life July 5, 1944. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Mary's College at Winona, Minnesota, in June, 1941.

Brother Joseph has taught in the social science and foreign language fields at schools in Chicago, Illinois; Boystown, Nebraska; Winona and Minneapolis, Minnesota; and at present is teaching in Memphis, Tennessee. It is Brother Joseph's great desire to see in either Fargo or Grand Forks, North Dakota a school opened for the boys of these cities.

• • • • •

Sisters Pauline Marie and Virginia Marie are daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Huard of St. Jude's parish. Sister Pauline Marie (Bernice) was born December 15, 1925, and Sister Virginia Marie (Muzette) was born August 4, 1924. Both received their elementary education in their local school and later enrolled at St. Joseph's Academy at Wild Rice, North Dakota.

Sister Pauline Marie entered the Convent of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary at Valley City, North Dakota, January 15, 1942, and was followed by her sister on July 19 of the same year. Sister Pauline Marie received the religious habit of the Order August 25, 1942, and Sister Virginia Marie received the habit February 25, 1943; both were professed in Spring Valley, Illinois, August 25, 1944.

Sister Pauline Marie is at present teaching the third and fourth grades at St. Cecilia's School at Harvey, North Dakota, and Sister Virginia Marie is teaching the lower grades at St. Charles' School at Oakes, North Dakota.

• • • • •

Sister Mary Paula, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anee Gregoire of St. Jude's parish was born April 20, 1927. After receiving her elementary education in her local school she attended St. Joseph's Academy at Wild Rice, North Dakota, for two years. She entered the Convent of the Sisters of Divine Savior at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, September 7, 1943 where she is now continuing her education. On August 12, 1944 she received the religious habit of the Sisters of Divine Savior and was given the name Sister Mary Paula; at present Sister Mary Paula is making her Novitiate in Milwaukee.

St. Jude's Parish of Thompson is indeed proud of its spiritual son and daughters in religion, and has reason to congratulate not only them but also their parents who have provided for their religious background. The members of St. Jude's parish will continue to pray for more vocations with the hope that some day a young man from our community will be raised to the great dignity of the priesthood.

OUR GOLDEN JUBILEE CHALICE

The following members of St. Jude's Parish made donations to the Golden Jubilee Chalice which has been dedicated to all the boys and girls from the parish who are in the Service:

Mrs. Frank Bohlman	Nick Kovatch
Mrs. Mayme Bohlman and family	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kuehnel
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Bohlman and family	Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Maddock and family
Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Breton and family	Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Majkrzak and family
Mrs. George Busch	Mr. and Mrs. J. T. McCann and family
Mr. and Mrs. H. Charboneau and family	Mrs. Kathleen McCann and daughter
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Cronin	Mrs. Irene McClintok
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cunningham and family	Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McMenamy
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Fralich and family	Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Ray and family
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fritz and family	Mrs. Christina Simon
Mr. and Mrs. Anee Gregoire and family	Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Simon
Miss Ione Gregoire	Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Simon and family
Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Gregoire and family	Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Smith and family
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Griggs	Miss Anna M. C. Weber
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Griggs	Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Weber and family
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Huard and family	Miss Donna West
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Huard and family	Miss Matilda West
Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Huard and family	Mr. and Mrs. Oscar West and family



CORPORAL WALLACE R. SMITH

In special remembrance of Corporal Wallace R. Smith who gave his life for his country during our Jubilee Year, we give this brief summary of his life:

CORPORAL WALLACE R. SMITH, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Smith of this parish, was killed in action on Iwo Jima, February 27, 1945. Memorial services were held in St. Jude's Church, March 27, when Father Paul Koehler offered a Solemn Requiem High Mass assisted by Father Thomas Ryan of Reynolds and Father Joseph Hylden of Grand Forks. The American Legion participated in the services.

Corporal Wallace Smith was born December 4, 1923 at Thompson and lived in this community until March, 1942, when he went to Kirkland, Washington to work in the shipyards. On August 23, 1943 he entered the service of his country as a Marine; on January 15, 1944, he went overseas and took part in the battles of Guam and Iwo Jima, where he met his death in the performance of his duty. Well could we say of Corporal Smith what our late President Roosevelt has said of other great war heroes: "He stands in the unbroken line of patriots who dared to die that freedom might live and grow and increase its blessings."

The following are the names of the other boys and girls serving our country and to whom we dedicate our Golden Jubilee Chalice:

Donald Bohlman	Robert J. Maddock
Earl Bohlman	Anthony Majkrzak
William Bohlman	John Majkrzak
Hubert L. Charboneau	Stanley Majkrzak
Richard Charboneau	James R. Simon
Philip J. Fortin	John C. Simon
Raymond M. Fritz	Harry L. Smith
C. Grant Griggs	Joseph B. Tweet
Frank Griggs	Malcolm Weber
Stephen L. Huard	Marcella Mooney
Norman Kuehnell	Dolores V. Simon



LAY DIRECTORS
Walter Huard—James T. McCann

Lay Directors and Advisory Board

The parishioners of St. Jude's appreciate the loyal and efficient work of their lay directors. At present Walter Huard is the treasurer of St. Jude's Church and James T. McCann is the secretary of the parish. Four times a year the lay directors meet with their pastor, who is the vice-president of the Corporation of St. Jude's Church.

At the spring meeting of this group eight other men of the parish attend to assist in advising the board of directors. These men are known as the Advisory Board of the parish, which, at present, consists of the following men: Walter S. Bohlman, Anee Gregoire, Leo Gregoire, W. J. McMenamy, Stanley Majkrzak, Lawrence Weber and Oscar West.

On behalf of the entire parish, we write this note of appreciation for the splendid cooperation, prudent judgment and sound financial advice, along with the many hours of time, given gladly and freely by the directors and members of our Advisory Board for the welfare of St. Jude's Parish. To them we say: "Thank you, and may we look forward to your continued cooperation."

Societies

St. Jude's Altar Society—St. Anne's Christian Mothers' Society

St. Jude's Altar Society is the oldest of the parochial societies. It was organized in some form very probably when the parish was first established. Since Father Geraghty in his story mentioned that the ladies had purchased a set of chandeliers for the little church that was destroyed by the cyclone in 1902, there must have been some form of an altar society at that time. From all reports we can be certain that the good ladies in those early days worked hard to raise funds for the maintenance of the church.

The first extant minutes of a meeting of the Altar Society bear the date September 27, 1925, when Mrs. Christina Simon was president, Mrs. L. C. Fralich was vice-president and Mrs. J. J. Simon was secretary-treasurer. It was decided at this meeting that an ice-cream social be held and that members start giving aids. From this one would gather that up to this time no regular meeting at which lunches were served had been held.

Evidence of many activities are found in the pages of the minutes of the Altar Society during these following years. Meetings were held in the homes as they are still today; food sales and card parties were given frequently; various committees were appointed to visit the sick, take care of the altar, etc., all factors pointing to a very active society. In the minutes of the September 1929 meeting, mention is made of the great success of the fall supper and bazaar, but no account of the gross receipts is given.

The magnificent work of St. Jude's Altar Society continues today under a new title. On December 3, 1942, at a meeting held at the Robert Gregoire home, the Altar Society affiliated with the Christian Mothers' Society. As a result of this meeting, forty-six members were received on May 9, 1943, into St. Anne's Christian Mothers' Society after the nine o'clock Mass at which



ST. ANNE'S CHRISTIAN MOTHERS' SOCIETY
Taken on day of Reception, May 9, 1943

all the women had received Holy Communion. The first officers of the Christian Mothers were: president, Mrs. R. N. Weber; vice-president, Mrs. Mayme Bohlman, and secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Frank Bohlman. Father Cassian Osendorf, O. S. B., assistant pastor of St. Michael's Church in Grand Forks, was the guest speaker at the breakfast which was served to the women at the Community Hall after the Mass. Other speakers at the breakfast included Father Paul Koehler, director of the organization and Mrs. R. N. Weber, president.

Although the Altar Society is now known as the Christian Mothers' Society, its work continues as before. The good ladies continue their important task of assisting the pastor in caring for the altar, the church and the rectory.

The spiritual aim of the Society is to foster devotion to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, the Blessed Virgin, St. Anne and the other special saints venerated by the organization. It has as its object also the Christian home education of children by truly Christian mothers. Under the special patronage of the Mother of Sorrows, the members are encouraged to undertake joyously and hopefully the important task of training and sanctifying the young souls entrusted to their care. The first Sunday of the month has been designated as the members' Communion Sunday, when, wearing the badges which they received on the day of their reception, they receive Holy Communion in a body.

The membership of the Christian Mothers' at present numbers 49 women and new members are received annually. Mrs. Walter Huard is the president of the organization at the writing of this booklet; Mrs. W. C. Bohlman is the vice-president, and Mrs. Lawrence Weber is the secretary-treasurer.



HOLY ROSARY SODALITY
Taken on day of Reception, May 10, 1942

Holy Rosary Sodalties

The Sodality is dedicated to the honor and glory of the Blessed Virgin Mary and has a twofold purpose: to foster devotion to Our Lady and to provide social and cultural helps for the young people of the parish.

Just when the first Sodality was organized in this parish is not certain, for there are available no records of its early history. There is reason to believe, however, that Father Patrick Reddin, who became pastor of Thompson in 1922, established the first Sodality in this parish. Two of the beautiful candlesticks that are found on the main altar today were donated by the Sodality in Father Reddin's time. The first mention of a Sodality in any records is found in the December, 1929 minutes of the Altar Society when the members voted that the Sodality could "use their funds to beautify the church."

The first minutes that are extant of any Sodality go back to May 15, 1938, when, under the direction of Father Lawrence Hebert, the Sodality was reorganized. At this first meeting Anna Weber was chosen president; Dolores Simon was elected vice president and Kathleen Bohlman was named secretary-treasurer.

Of special interest in the notes that followed is a record of the celebration of Youth Day, May 4, 1941, when a Communion breakfast was held at the Legion Hall. A radio was provided to make it possible for all attending to hear a talk given by Bishop Muench on that occasion.

It was not until December, 1941 that the Sodality decided to be affiliated with the world-wide Sodality and obtain a Sodality charter, whereby all members would be able to receive the indulgences of the society. Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, was chosen as the Sodality's primary title, with St. Therese, the Little Flower of Jesus, as the secondary title. As a result of this meeting 22 members were formally received into the Sodality on Sunday afternoon, May 10, 1942. Kathryn McCann was installed as the first Sodality prefect; Muzette Huard became the vice-prefect, and Dorothy Bohlman was elected secretary-treasurer.

In the morning of that same day the Sodality members, with their mothers, received Holy Communion and attended a Communion breakfast at the Community Hall. The Very Reverend William McNamee, pastor of St. Michael's Church in Grand Forks, was the principal speaker. Others who addressed the group included Father Paul Koehler, Sodality director, Miss McCann, the prefect, and Mrs. Edward Gregoire who represented the mothers.

A reorganization in the fall of 1943 resulted in two Sodalities: a junior group for all those in grade school, and a senior sodality for those of high school age and over. The Sodalities now opened their ranks to both boys and girls and this increased the number of those enrolled so that today the two groups have a combined membership of 57.

The present officers of the Senior Sodality are: prefect, James Bohlman, vice-prefect, Loren Fralick, and secretary-treasurer, Phyllis Schumacher. The officers of the Junior Sodality include: prefect, Elizabeth Bohlman, vice-prefect, Dale West, and secretary-treasurer, Elizabeth Majkrzak. Miss Anna Weber is the moderator for the junior Sodality.

St. Jude's Holy Name Society

The Holy Name Society was established in this parish April 18, 1943, when the following officers were chosen to lead this new organization: president, W. J. McMenamy; vice-president, R. N. Weber, and secretary-treasurer, John Szepekak.

The prime object of this society is to foster devotion to the Holy Name of our Blessed Redeemer. The Holy Name Society forges a common bond between the pastor and the men of the parish; it acts also as a means to strengthen the social life of the parish, not only by bringing the men together, but also by providing occasional social events in which the members of the Christian Mothers' Society participate.

Since the Holy Name Society has been organized, it has sponsored two Communion breakfasts. The first, attended by 30 members, was held November 14, 1943, when Dr. Louis Stacey of Grand Forks was the guest speaker.

At the second Communion breakfast, November 12, 1944, 50 men of the parish heard Father Thomas Hendrickson of Fargo address them.

Other outside speakers who have spoken at regular meetings of the Society since it was established include Fathers Thomas Ryan of Reynolds, George Mehok of Hope, Joseph Hylden of Grand Forks and Reginald Roy, O. S. F., of Winnipeg, Canada.

The present officers of the Holy Name Society are: president, Walter Huard; vice-president, Charles Griggs, and secretary-treasurer, Henry Weber.

St. Tarcisus Altar Boys' Club

In the fall of 1942 the altar boys of St. Jude's Church had a meeting and formed what is now known as the St. Tarcisus Altar Boys' Club. Walter Majkrzak was chosen as the first president.

The purpose of the organization is to give to those serving at God's altar a deeper realization of their great privilege and to help them to become better servers. The members meet from time to time to review the prayers and rubrics used at the altar and to plan social activities.

The members of St. Jude's parish are proud of their boys serving at the altar. Every boy who is willing to cooperate is given an opportunity to serve, and when he has passed his test, he receives an altar boy pin making him a full fledged member of the club.



ST. TARCISUS ALTAR BOYS' CLUB

David Lee Huard is president of the club at this time; Charles McCann is vice-president, and William J. McMenamy is the secretary-treasurer. Other members of the club include: Alfred Fortin, Jr., Dale Fortin, Lyle Fralich, Lawrence Fritz, Matthew Fritz, Dennis Gregoire, Keith Gregoire, Kenneth Gregoire, Lee Gregoire, Harry Griggs, George Huard, Keith Huard, Darrell Ray, Joseph Simon, Robert Simon, Edgar Smith, James Weber and Dale West.

St. Jude's Cemetery Association

St. Jude's Cemetery Association was established during the summer of 1942 for the purpose of taking care of our parish cemetery. Known as Calvary Cemetery, it consists of two and a half acres of land; the first acre and a half was donated by James McMenamy, one of the outstanding pioneers of the parish; in 1908 another acre was purchased.

The members of St. Jude's parish are proud of their cemetery, realizing that it is "God's Acre," and for that reason they will continue to support this Cemetery Association in order to give decent care to this important plot of ground. Nick Kovatch is president of the Cemetery Association and Henry J. Weber is its secretary-treasurer.

Each year on Memorial Day a special service is held at the Cemetery in cooperation with the American Legion program. During the past year a large corpus for our cemetery cross was bought by donations received for this purpose, and this was dedicated on Cemetery Sunday of this year, May 27.

IN APPRECIATION

We cannot close the pages of this book without a word of appreciation to all who have helped make this book possible. In general we wish to thank all who have assisted us in this work; it would be impossible to enumerate all individually who gave us assistance. But we do wish, in particular, to thank our Most Reverend Bishop for his message to our people, and Father Edward Geraghty of Jamestown who through his assistant, Father Louis Veit, gave us the account of his experiences as pastor of Thompson.

We wish also to thank Mr. Joseph Ackerman of Reynolds who gave us much valuable information on the early history of our parish. We wish to express our appreciation to the Sisters and students of the Academy of St. James of Grand Forks who assisted us in preparing this booklet for the press, as well as to the GRAND FORKS HERALD and the CATHOLIC ACTION NEWS who permitted us to use several of their cuts for pictures. We wish to thank all the patrons whose advertisements are found on the remaining pages of this book and through whose generosity the cost of this booklet was met.

Finally we wish to thank all the members of the parish for their splendid cooperation in all the details of our Golden Jubilee celebration. Through your help this Golden Jubilee Year shall be one that all will long remember. Again, thank you, and God bless you.

FATHER PAUL L. KOEHLER, *Pastor*

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